

"BETTER BABIES" IS MADE FILM SUBJECT

Motion Pictures to Teach Mothers How to Care for Their Offspring.

Motion pictures have been pressed into service in the nation-wide effort that is being made to bring to the attention of every mother in the country the proper sort of methods of caring for infants.

The various social service organizations interested in the "better babies" movement have secured numbers of picture studies of the various institutions that have been devoting considerable attention to infant welfare.

In Washington there are pictures of out-of-door work done at Camp Good Will that have been shown here under the auspices of the Washington Diet Kitchen and the Infant Welfare League.

Special Department.
During the next few months the Paramount Pictures Corporation, through its latest medium, the "magazine on the screen," a special department has been set aside for the forwarding of the movement of better babies. This work is being done in co-operation with the National Federation of Women's Clubs of the United States and the Children's Bureau of the Department of Labor, at Washington.

The Paramount Pictures' material has been prepared by the movement of infant specialists, Dr. Roger Dennett, of New York, and the pictures are edited by the Woman's Home Companion.

Unique Departure.
The picturing on the screen of the "better babies" is recognized as unique in motion picture photography. In the subject where "Bathing the Child" is treated, the babe, four months old, is the center of attraction. As cute as any child could ever be, she wakes in the morning and cries to the nurse, "I want my bath," and the maid makes ready the necessities. As the nurse is about to take the child from the crib it appears to cry, "Don't take me by my arms," and she lifts it with care. When they reach the tub the child time says, "The water should be 75 degrees warm."

The first of the Metro-Drew single reel comedies, in which Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Drew are starred, will be released on the Metro. program March 15.

TODAY'S BEST FILMS

By GARDNER MACK.

Viola Dana in "The Innocence of Ruth" (Kleine-Edition), Crandall's, Ninth and E streets.
Frank Keenan in "The Coward" (Triangle), Crandall's Apollo, 624 H street northeast.
Maurice Costello in "The Crown Prince's Double" (Vitaphone), the Masonic Auditorium, Thirteenth street and New York avenue.
Marie Doro and Elliot Dexter in "Diplomacy" (adapted from the play by Victorien Sardou (Famous Players), Loew's Columbia, Twelfth and F streets.
Edna Mason in "The One Woman" (Edison), the Hippodrome, Ninth street and New York avenue.
Richard Buhler and Rosetta Brice in "The Gods of Fate" (V. L. S. E-Lubin), the Garden, 423 Ninth street.
Tyronne Power and Kathryn Williams in "Thou Shalt Not" (Selig), the Strand, Ninth and D streets.
Marguerite Clark in "Seven Sisters" (Famous Players), the Home Theater, Twelfth and C streets northeast.
Pauline Frederick in "The Spider" (Famous Players), the Leader, Ninth, between E and F streets.

Note—These selections are made from programs prepared by the managers of the theaters concerned, and no responsibility is assumed for arbitrary changes without notice to The Times. They are based on the personality of the players and the producing company, and not personal inspection, except in special cases. G. M.

Motion Picture Controversies Stupid, Declares Bertha Kalich

Actress Defends Photoplay as Form of Amusement and the Players Personally.

MORE BENEFIT THAN EVIL

Distinguished Star of Both Stage and Screen Denounces Censorship.

By BERTHA KALICH.

The influence of motion pictures for good or evil is a subject that has been discussed so exhaustively that nothing new remains to be said concerning it.

Usually the view of the question depends upon the standpoint of the person expressing it. The player, of course, does not regard the matter from the point of view as the clergyman, although it is fair to assume that he has a better knowledge of it.

But this is not invariable, for some of the motion pictures' most stalwart and enthusiastic advocates are representatives of the church, who, as men of large intelligence and broad sympathies, recognize the power of the pictures as a civilizing institution.

It is very rare indeed nowadays to find among the clergymen who adhere to old standards, the narrow and prejudiced views that obtained half a century ago among their brethren. The world has progressed marvelously during these fifty years, and ignorance, bigotry, and intellectual brutality have been swept away.

In a great degree, by the relentless forces of enlightenment and culture. Therefore any intellectual leader today who professes to believe in the manifold errors of this time can be regarded only as a relic of happily disappearing past.

Status of Pictures Assured.

In one sense it is insulting to an intelligent community to engage in a controversial discussion of the morals of the ethics of motion pictures, because it implies that the readers of newspapers in such a community are ignorant, stupid and reactionary—that the status of pictures is still an open question. So far as my observation goes this is not the case.

It is true that the picture theater may be abused; that its influence, in certain instances, may be misdirected; that sometimes it may be made to pander to vicious instincts. But is this not true of every public institution? Is it not true of the press, of books, of pictures, of sculpture, and even of the pulpit? Are there not cases citable in the history of religions where, under the guise of truth, error, falsehood, cruelty and pernicious ideas have been promulgated to the injury of mankind and the obstruction of human progress?

The pictures are no better and no worse in their practical operations than the people to whom they appeal and upon whose support they must rely. But in its best aspects, and as it is chiefly known to the Anglo-Saxon people, the picture theater is unquestionably a power for good.

The greatest literature of all languages is designed for interpretation upon the screen, and it is only when it is bodied forth visually that it reaches its complete form and achieves the purpose of its creation.

Has Great Possibilities.

The influence of pictures is susceptible of a direction more refining, more impressive, more illuminating and more stimulating to the intellectual faculties than any other form of art, not excepting music, painting, sculpture, or literature; for, in a measure, it combines all these in its combination of form, color and action. It appeals to the imagination; it stirs the heart; it



BERTHA KALICH,
Star of both the stage and the screen, who writes her opinions of the possibilities of motion pictures and a condemnation of censorship proposals for The Times today.

gives healthful activity to the emotional side of man.

It is comic; it is the world in miniature; it is life. Those who deplore life—who are ashamed of it, who are afraid of it—should seek a permanent abode on a desert island, where their tremors and their misanthropy can disturb only themselves. Why should pictures be censored? The motion picture producers and managers are not scoundrels and fools—they are men of intelligence and integrity. We are all a part of a great industry that is affording the public an opportunity to see fine things, played by fine players for a trivial cost.

In the days before I knew anything about the business at all I believed that motion picture work was degrading, and that I could never bring myself to appear in a film. Now I am so deeply interested in it that I want to learn more and more. I want to know all there is to know about the work, and I see tremendous possibilities that were never apparent to me before.

McIntosh Plays Lead in Photoplay of Old Drama

Burr McIntosh, who played the leading role in the photoplay adaptation of The Times series of Wallingford stories a few months ago, has been engaged by the Mutual company for the production in film form of Bartley Campbell's old drama, "My Pardner."

This will be the fourth photoplay in which McIntosh has appeared. He played the leading roles in Wallingford, "In Mizoura," and "Colonel Carter of Cartersville." His new play is one of the old melodramas which was first produced on the stage in this country at the Union Square Theater in 1879. It had a long career on the stage.

CHANCE FOR BUDDING GENIUSES TO BLOOM

Aspiring Photo Playwrights Offered Opportunity in New Type of Scenario Contest.

An opportunity for scenario writers to rise to fame is being afforded them by the Picture Play Magazine-Universal Film Manufacturing Company scenario contest, the winner of which will be awarded a prize of \$50 by the Picture Play Magazine while the Universal will purchase the scenario at the rate of \$50 per reel for as many reels as the judges will consider the photoplay should run.

The contest is open to everyone, whether experienced in the business or a mere novice. It is not necessary that those submitting material have written scenarios before, neither is it essential that they know photoplay technique.

Mary Fuller a Judge.
The judges selected to determine the winner of the contest are Jos. Brant, general manager of the Universal; Clarence J. Chaine, editor of the "Hits for Scenario Writers" department in Picture Play Magazine, and Mary Fuller, who will be starred in the winning picture.

The leading character in the story must be one that can be played to good advantage by Mary Fuller. Miss Fuller can best play strong dramatic parts, and those which are typical of the American woman of any class. All manuscripts must be sent to Picture Play Magazine, Contest Department, 34-35 Seventh avenue, New York city. Manuscripts should be folded, not rolled.

Dorothy Bernard Van Buren was a visitor to Washington the early part of the week. Mrs. Van Buren was on her way to New York from California, where she has been making pictures for the Fox company, and stopped in Washington to spend a couple of days with her husband, A. H. Van Buren, of the Fox Players. Mrs. Van Buren is to appear shortly in a new Fox picture with William Farnum, which was made in California from an adaptation of the old drama, "Hoodman Blind." In New York she will be starred in several new photoplays the Fox company has secured for her.

Pauline Frederick has just completed the final scenes in the film adaptation of "Audrey," which the Famous Players will release this month. Many of the scenes were photographed in Florida.

LOCAL MENTION.

Chaplin in "Mabel at Wheel," Va. Home of Charlie, today. European war film Sunday—"Secret of Adrianople."

The Sunday Evening Times Gives reliable advertisers a last minute talk with over forty thousand homes.

Theda Bara's last screen appearance in new films, "Gold and the Woman," Sun., Mon., Tue., Empire Theater.

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PHOTO PLAYS

10c 10 A. M. 6 P. M. GARDEN To 11 15c
STARS DATES PLAYS

NANCE O'NEIL TODAY SOULS IN BONDAGE

No. 2—CHARLES RICHMAN in "BEANED"

10c 10 A. M. 6 P. M. STRAND To 11 15c
STARS DATES PLAYS

TYRONE POWER TODAY Thou Shalt Not Covet

No. 2—ETHEL TEARE in "WHEN HUSBY FORGOT"

opens 9 A. M. daily LEADER 9th between E and F

PARAMOUNT PICTURES

TODAY and Tomorrow PAULINE FREDERICK In "The Spider" The Picture Everybody Is Talking About

Monday and Tuesday FANNIE WARD In "Tennessee's Pardner" A Story of Life on the Frontiers

Wed. and Thurs. CONSTANCE COLLIER In "The Tongues of Men" A Sparkling Comedy Drama of the Stage

Friday and Saturday ANNA HELD In "Madame La Presidente" A Pleasing French Comedy

Next Sunday MARY PICKFORD In "Behind the Scenes" One of Her Many Successes

ALWAYS A GOOD SHOW—DELIGHTFUL MUSIC

Kittens Reichart Falls Victim to the Measles

Kittens Reichart, one of the talented tots of the William Fox companies, who is so afflicted.

Kittens developed this disease of childhood in the Fox studios in New Jersey just the other day.

Said Chaplin to Caruso.

Chaplin was introduced to Caruso the other night.

"Hi Ze Caruso of se cinema, I greet you," exclaimed Caruso with his characteristic modesty.

Chaplin hesitated only a second, advancing smiling and with outstretched hand.

"Delighted—the Chaplin of the opera, I congratulate you."

PHOTO PLAYS

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SUNDAY—The Supreme Star of the Screen CLARA KIMBALL YOUNG

In An Adaptation of the Great Stage Success

"THE YELLOW PASSPORT"

MONDAY The Former Poll Player RICHARD BUHLER Supported by Rosetta Brice "A MAN'S MAKING."

TUESDAY The Dainty Actress FRANCES NELSON In An Absorbing Drama "LOVE'S CRUCIBLE."

THURSDAY The Famous Character Actor MACLYN ARBUCKLE In A Great Political Play "THE REFORM CANDIDATE."

FRIDAY The Popular Favorite CARLYLE BLACKWELL In the Newspaper Novel "THE CLARION."

WEDNESDAY The Great Triangle Feature "MARTYRS OF THE ALAMO." And Keystone Comedy "HER PAINTED HERO."

SATURDAY Trianglo Presents Its Star WM. S. HART In A Stirring Drama "THE DISCIPLE." And Keystone Comedy "SAVED BY WIRELESS"

CRANDALL'S

OPEN 11 A. M. to 11 P. M.

Kleine-Edition Presents the Charming Star SUN. VIOLA DANA "The Innocence of Ruth"

MON. AND TUE. America's Great Dramatic Genius HOLBROOK BLINN In A Masterpiece of Realism "The Unpardonable Sin"

WED. AND THURS. Red Feather Photoplays Present J. WARREN KERRIGAN In A Fascinating Story of Romance and Adventure "The Pool of Flame"

FRI. AND SAT. Equitable Corporation Presents Its Accomplished Star JANE GREY In An Absorbing Story of Real Life "Man and His Angel"

SHOPPERS Attend matinees at Crandall's where you can enjoy a pleasant hour in a clean well ventilated theater showing photoplays of the better class. With a well trained corps of employees who respect and carefully consider your presence and endeavor to make you feel at home.

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EMPIRE 416 9th St. N. W. Home of Celebrated Fox Photoplays

SUNDAY—MONDAY—TUESDAY William Fox Presents the Celebrated "Vampire" Actress THEDA BARA

In A New Play As the Charmer of Men "Gold and the Woman"

SPECIAL NOTICE This production marks the last appearance of Miss Bara in a new film during the present year. Consequently her admirers should not fail to see her in this great photoplay.

The Greatest Characterization of Her Career! FRIDAY AND SATURDAY RICHARD BENNETT And Co-Workers In the Great Drama of the Consequences of Sin "DAMAGED GOODS"

COMING Next Week WILLIAM FARNUM in "The Bondsman"

HOME THEATER

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WASHINGTON'S HANDSOMEST PHOTOPLAY HOUSE. THE PRIDE OF THE NORTHEAST FULL ORCHESTRA EVERY EVE. and SUNDAY MATINEE

Comedies Each Evening in Addition to the Features.

Tomorrow, Sunday, March 12th, Matinee at 3 P. M. World's Film Corp. offers Alice Brady in "The Ballet Girl"

A Ballet Girl Whose Stage Ambition Makes Trouble.

Monday March 13 Henry Kolker in "THE WARNING"

Tuesday March 14 Maurice Costello in "The Crown Prince's Double"

Wednesday March 15 Fannie Ward in "The Marriage of Kitty"

Thursday March 16 Wm. Fox Presents "A Fool's Revenge" With Wm. H. Tooker

Friday March 17 Valli Valli in "Her Debt of Honor"

Saturday March 18 Elsie Janis in "Nearly a Lady"

SUNDAY, MARCH 19th, World's Film Corp. Presents ROBERT WARWICK in "FRUITS OF DESIRE."

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